Vidhana Soudha Enquiry Committee (Amendment to terms of Reference)

Q.—724 Sri A. V. NARASIMHA REDDY (Bangalore South).—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) whether the Government have been addressed by some members of the public requesting to amend the terms of reference of the Vidhana Soudha Enquiry Committee;

(*b*) if so, the action taken by them?

A.—Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO (Minister for Law and Education).—

(*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Sri A. V. NARASIMHA REDDY.—What are the terms of reference of this Committee, Sir?

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—The terms of reference are published Sir.

Sri A. V. NARASIMHA REDDY.—In answer to (*a*), you have said 'No'.

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—The question as I saw it is: "whether the Government has been addressed by some members of the public requesting the amendment of the terms of reference to the Vidhana Soudha Enquiry Committee." The reply is that no representations have been received.

Sri A. V. NARASIMHA REDDY.—Sir, if that is the position even to this day, will the Government please amend the terms of reference so as to bring within its purview the power to investigate into even some of the procedures that they have adopted in giving contracts, sub-contracts and various other items of work in the Vidhana Soudha at least now?

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—This has got to be examined, Sir.

Sri A. V. NARASIMHA REDDY.—The anxiety of members who have tried to elicit information from the Government on previous occasions, if I remember aright, is that there has been a lot of wastage of money in the execution of that work. That was a matter which they wanted to be enquired into. So far as the terms of reference you have given them are concered, they do not include these things. Therefore, to see that these members are given powers to go into that question also, it is necessary to amend the terms of reference, Sir.

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—I believe Sir, the terms of reference are comprehensive enough and I would advise the Hon'ble friends to approach the Committee and if there is need felt, we will examine the question.

Sri A. V. NARASIMHA REDDY.—Has it not come to the notice of Government Sir, that the enquiry by this Committee should in most cases be *in camera* and the public also have expressed their opinion that it should not be *in camera*?

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—We have not stated whether it should be *in camera* or otherwise. We leave it to the Committee to regulate its procedure.

Sri B. NARAYANASWAMY.—Has it come to the notice of the Government that some workers of the Vidhana Soudha have given application to the Chairman to grant an interview and that interview has not been granted?

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—Government is not aware.

Sri B. NARAYANASWAMY.—Sir, will the Government kindly request the Chairman to grant an interview to these workers who want to see the Chairman and give evidence?

Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—If the circumstances under which the interview is sought is intimated to Government, the matter will be considered.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಸ್. ಗೋಪಾಲಗೌಡ.—ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಯ ಮುಂದೆ ರಿಪೋರ್ಟ್ ಕೊಡಲು ಬಂದಾಗ ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಕ್ಲಾರ್ಕ್ ನದರಿ ರಿಪೋರ್ಟನ್ನು ಕೊಟ್ಟರೆ ತೊಂದರೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿ ಅದನ್ನು ತೆಗೆದು ಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ನಿರಾಕರಿಸಿದ್ದು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಗಮನಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಿದೆಯೇ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಎ. ಜಿ. ರಾಮಚಂದ್ರರಾವ್.—ಬಂದಿಲ್ಲ.